

# BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON AT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON -THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30 PM

### Present

Cllr M Munday - Chairman      Mrs J Scott – Clerk      Cllr B Feltwell      Cllr N Moxey  
Cllr D Schumacher      Cllr P Cross      Cllr K Spicer      Cllr J Wheals  
Cllr C Perry

Also, in attendance - District Councillor D Busby, Footpath Warden and 6 members of the public

Cllr Munday welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the cold room – windows were open for ventilation as Covid restrictions were still being observed – and gave a short explanation of how a Parish Meeting worked. The Clerk received no notification of anyone planning to film or record this meeting. A risk assessment had been carried out for 9 Councillors and up to 24-28 members of the public with seating 1 metre plus apart.

1. **To record apologies for absence:** Cllr M Bamford – Unwell – County Councillor Georgia Hall, Tree Warden and Speedwatch Co-ordinator
2. **To receive Declaration of Interest relating to Agenda items:** - None received
3. **Dispensations – to consider written requests for dispensation of disclosable pecuniary interest in matters relating to Agenda items** – None received
4. **To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2 September 2021 -**  
The minutes were approved as a true record and were duly signed.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr K Spicer      All in favour      CU

5. **Matters arising from the Minutes - Page 1077 item 5** – Still awaiting quotes for plinth – two contractors have been chased. **Page 1078 item 8** – Letter sent to resident re Grove Road Footpath – **Page 1081 item 22** – e-mail sent on 7 September re landowner's e-mail saying that part of the caravan is on his land & he has asked residents to move it as it encroaches well over his boundary – Babergh have not got back to me. - chased again today- Special Events Order for Remembrance Service has been applied for and granted - Notices are on both notice boards. Parish Council Meeting dates for 2022 have been sent to John Blackmore. Rest covered by agenda items

## Public Session

**County Councillor G Hall** - had sent her September written report which had been circulated to Councillors – **APPENDIX 1** in the minute book and on the website.

**Resident:** Worried horse riders are concerned about their safety when turning right into Hazel Shrub from Bergholt Road on blind bend. They suggested an alternative may be to exit the woods onto Bergholt Road where there is an existing footpath exit. They wondered whether the landowner might give them a margin alongside the footpath so they could then turn right into Bergholt Road at that point and then turn left into Hazel Shrub. Alternatively change the footpath use to bridleway. The Parish Council could write to the owner at Homeland to request reducing height and width of hedge at that junction and also approach County Councillor Hall re change of use of footpath. It would be up to horse riders to approach landowner. Cllr Schumacher suggested approaching Highways about improving road markings so drivers stay on correct side of road.

**District Councillor D Busby** – had sent his written report which had been circulated to Councillors **APPENDIX 2** in the minute book and on the website – An e-mail from Samantha Summers about Bentley Barn saying that the discussion is ongoing had not been received and the Clerk will be sent a copy. He mentioned Careeriosity skills festival that Mid Suffolk are running

in October half term which Babergh children can attend. Babergh will hold one in the Spring on Food at Jimmy's Farm for both districts.

**6. Planning Applications –**

a) To note decisions of Planning Authority on previous applications –

<b>DC/21/04367</b>	3 Red Cottages, Potash Lane	<b>Permission has been granted</b>
Discharge of Conditions for DC/18/04198	Woodview Nurseries, Hazel Shrub	<b>Approved Conditions</b>

The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to - Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/04739 Holly Oak Hazel Shrub Bentley Suffolk - Condition 4 (Discharge of Surface Water), Condition 5 (Bin Storage and Presentation), Condition 6 (Highway Access) and Condition 8 (Landscaping Scheme) – picked up from Babergh's planning lists.

b) To give comments on any new applications in hand –

<b>DC/21/04847</b>	Capel Station Garage, Bentley Hall Road	Change of use from sui-generis storage to A1 (Car showroom) & erection of portacabin
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**RECOMMEND APPROVAL.**

Proposed Cllr N Moxey      Seconded Cllr P Cross      All in favour      CU

<b>Appeal APP/D3505/W/21/32 74928</b>	Land Adjacent 4 & 5 South View Green	Erection of 1 No single storey detached dwelling with associated parking
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<b>Appeal APP/D3505/W/21/32 75413</b>	Ruseley, Hazel Shrub	Outline planning application (some matters reserved – access to be considered) – Severance of garden & erection of a detached dwelling
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<b>Appeal - APP/D3505/W/21/32 7669</b>	Land off Hazel Shrub, Hazel Shrub	Erection of 1 no dwelling & garage with associated landscaping
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District Councillor Busby told Councillors about Employment land at Copdock – there will be 450 car parking spaces – warehouses, industrial units etc.- it will have a huge impact on the area - he has responded and will send the Clerk the planning reference.

**7. Report by Exception – Tree Warden/Footpath Warden/Capel Library/ Bentley Long Barn**

**/Footpath Warden & Speedwatch - Tree Warden–** Strong wind has brought down many large & small tree branches, however, no messages were received about fallen trees. Low hanging branches of trees bordering the Parish playing field have been removed to allow Ray Bloomfield to cut the dead plants on the borders. Some of the trimmed branches have been put on the bonfire, two piles remain. If anyone is available to put these on the bonfire, as well as the two logs that lie on the far side of the field, I would be grateful. Confirmation of my order for 150 tress and 100m of hedging saplings has been received. Ipswich Rotary has offered to help with planting them. I will be attending the annual Regional Tree Warden Forum for East Anglia, organised by the Tree Council on 20 November. This year the forum is being held in the Village Hall at St Osyth – details will be sent to the Clerk. **Friends of Capel Library** – A Meeting of the Trustees was held on 28 September. Trustees noted thanks to Dave Busby for all the work and contribution he has given to the FoCL over the years – he has now retired from the Friends Group and will be very much missed. The FoCL Constitution will be reviewed before the next meeting. Fixtures and fittings will in future be purchased through the Property Dept of Suffolk Libraries. Approx 130 children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge we which was a great success. 80+ children who completed the challenge attended the Olly Magician celebration

with their parents. Membership stands at 131 and the 100 Club at 97. Quiz Night is on 16 October. **Bentley Barn** – An update has been received which Michael Bamford has circulated. - **Footpath Warden** – Nothing to report. **Speedwatch** – five sessions held. Three were nil returns, Bergholt Road, and two at the Village Hall. Nine vehicles were reported. Eight on Capel Road and one at the War Memorial.

8. **To Review Risk Assessment-** Councillors have been sent a copy of the Risk Assessment - the Clerk informed them that the Assets have been uplifted by RPI 3% and it was proposed they were accepted.

Proposed Cllr P Cross                      Seconded Cllr C Perry                      All in favour      CU

9. **To discuss 2022 quote for Grass Cutting Services – Closed Churchyard –** The quote was for four extra cuts a year starting April to December – as needed (12 instead of 8). – not including rough area at the back and side of the church – maintain footpath surfaces to an acceptable level – to clear churchyard of twigs and fallen leaves – Autumn & Winter twice a year at a charge of £150 per visit including fuel & weed killer. £170 per visit for leaf clearing. There was some concern about the use of weed killer and after some discussion the Clerk was asked to find out what weed killer would be used and to confirm with the PCC that the extra cuts were needed. This will stay on the agenda for the November meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to find out re weed killer & check with PCC

10. **To discuss Parking – Garages in Silver Leys -** This had been brought up in the public session of the September meeting. Councillors discussed the fact that it was Crown Land – this was because the builder went bankrupt and the land reverted back to the Crown. The neighbours need to sort it out themselves. However, this item will be left on the agenda so that Tree Warden can clarify the facts at the next meeting.

11. **To discuss Dangers of Horse Riding in the Village** – How to make Bergholt Road safer for horse riders was discussed in the public session. Cllr Schumacher's idea of marking the road with two white lines was discussed and it was proposed that we write Highways and County Councillor Hall for signs and markings and also write to homeowner asking if they could cut their hedge back in both height and width.

Proposed Cllr N Moxey                      Seconded Cllr D Schumacher                      All in favour      CU

**Action:** Write to County Councillor Hall, Highways and resident

12. **To discuss County Broadband** – Following the visit from County Broadband at the September meeting a Zoom meeting will be set up with County Broadband, Councillors and a couple of IT experts who live in the village to discuss.

**Action:** Clerk to contact County Broadband to set up a Zoom meeting

13. **To Review Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Complaints Procedure** – The Clerk told the meeting there are no legislative changes to SO & Financial Regs so these will remain the same. Councillors had been sent a copy of an updated Complaints Procedure document and it was proposed that these documents be accepted.

Proposed Cllr B Feltwell                      Seconded Cllr M Munday                      All in favour      CU

14. **CPR Training re Defibrillators** – The Clerk told the meeting that a notice had been put in the Bentley Bugle but to date she had received no response. A discussion followed on defibrillators – the notice will be put on Bentley Facebook page to see if there is any interest.

15. **Litter Bins for Playing Field & Play Area** - Two bins were ordered as part of the Welcome Back Funding Scheme – Babergh are ordering in bulk at the end of September so we should hear soon. Cllr Munday to chase.

16. **To discuss possible extension to a Bentley Footpath -Update -** A response had been received from County Councillor Georgia Hall – SCC suggest that the Parish Council approach the landowner – the simplest way of adding to the footpath extension would be by entering into a Creation Agreement with the landowner (under Section 25 Highways Act 1980)- under S26 landowners are entitled to claim statutory compensation for the resultant loss of land. Following a short discussion it was proposed that an informal approach be made to the landowner by Councillor Wheals.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals

Seconded Cllr P Cross

All in favour CU

**Action:** Councillor Wheals to be sent a copy of resident's map

17. **To discuss Tree on Silver Leys – Update -** Nothing to report at the moment.
18. **Traffic Calming – SID/ANPR/Road Markings – Update -** SID is doing well we have had positive feedback. Cllr Schumacher will change the direction of the SID at the Capel Road site. – Clerk reminded him to let Speedwatch Co-ordinator know when the device is being moved to a new location. The software has not yet been downloaded to collect data – hoping to do that soon but he did think that Councillors should consider purchasing a solar powered SID. Resident asked about the newly installed road markings and was told that these were paid for out of County Councillor G Jones' Locality Budget. . ANPR is ongoing.
19. **Playing Field Society – i) Litter Bins – Update -** See item 15 above they need to be installed asap as there is a litter problem on the field. ii) **Outdoor Gym Equipment – Update.** Footpath Warden had obtained an updated quote to include supply and installation of Rubber Mulch Surface (£5,470). The CIL expenditure form needs to be completed this month – the new quote including the surface is £14,073. – waiting for second quote from Action Play and Leisure iii) **Use of Field – Update** – leave till next time- Drainage work is taking place on the field on 11 October.
20. **Neighbourhood Plan –Update** Cllr Moxey reported that the Inspector had passed back a couple of informal questions and we are arranging a meeting with our Consultant to agree responses. We seem to be fairly close to a decision and if the Inspector's decision is positive , to a Referendum.
21. **To receive Correspondence** – The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to the following e-mails - E-mails x 12 from residents re Horse Riding, 4 Case Lane, Possible ext to Footpath & Signage re Quiet Lanes – 2 x e-mails Network Assurance re Special Event Application - 3x – Maritime re Car Parking update, & Aggregate E-mail from Highways thanking us for letting them know the road markings had been done – 6 x County Councillor G Hall re Network Assurance e-mail, Solar Panel Scheme, Adult Children's Services & possible extension to Bentley Footpath,& September Newsletter. 4 x Tree Warden re Oak Trees in Bergholt Road, List of Trees ordered by Community Orchard and STWN news protecting young trees. 3 x Babergh District Council re Oak Trees in Bergholt Road - E-mails from SALC – E-Bulletins & Queen's Green Canopy. FoCL will not be asking for financial support for the coming year.
22. **Exchange of information by Councillors and matters for consideration at future Meetings**  
**Cllr Munday** - had received an e-mail from resident -who was worried about the safety of her two horses as she has been informed of a large Firework Party that is going to be held near her property on 6 November. After some discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the resident and explain that unfortunately the Parish Council are unable to intervene in neighbourly disputes.  
**Cllr Wheals** – Told the meeting that Bentley Comrades had arranged a talk at the Village Hall by War Graves Commission only to find there was no Internet Connection. A discussion followed on purchasing a projector and Dongle – (about £300-400) so planning applications can be displayed digitally during meetings. Also to ask the Village Hall Committee to provide Broadband – Agenda item.

**Action:** Agenda items - Purchase of projector & dongle – Broadband Village Hall – e-mail resident

**23. To Authorise Payments - The following payments were authorised**

101554	Royal British Legion	Chaplet		£75.00
101555	Help for Heroes	Door to door Collection		£25.00
101556	Peter Baldwin	Grass cut/strim C/yard		£140.00
101557	Mrs J Scott	Clerks Salary September	£520.00	
		Minus tax	<u>00.00</u>	£579.04
			£520.00	
		Plus Expenses	<u>£59.04</u>	
			<u>£579.04</u>	

It was proposed that these be paid en bloc.

Proposed Cllr J Wheals                      Seconded: Cllr D Schumacher      All in favour      CU

**24. To confirm date of next scheduled meeting –. Parish Council Meeting Thursday 4 November 2021 at 7.30 pm. Preceded by Playing Field Society Meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**



**DATE: 04/11/2021**